

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 23 for an alleged informality, requesting that the word “centre” be replaced with “center.” The word “centre” is a recognized variant spelling of “center,” chiefly British. (See: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/centre>) Therefore, in order to maintain consistency with the specification and related applications pending or granted in other jurisdictions, the Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

2.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 14-20 and 22-25 as being unpatentable over Laroia, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 7,386,306) in view of Li, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0169681); and, claim 21 as being unpatentable over Laroia in view of Li and Alvesalo, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,650,655). The Applicants traverse the rejections.

The Examiner previously rejected claims 14, 15, 17-19, and 22-25 as being unpatentable over Li, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0169681) in view of Engstrom, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,909,436); claims 16, 20 and 26 as being unpatentable over Li in view of Walton, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0081538); and, claim 21 as being unpatentable over Li in view of Alvesalo, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,650,655). The Applicants filed an appeal of those rejections on October 14, 2009. The Examiner did not file a response to Applicants' Appeal Brief; rather, the Examiner has reopened prosecution and asserted a new basis of rejection for all claims, adding Laroia as the primary reference. Laroia, however, does not qualify as prior art.

As discussed with the Examiner via telephone on April 21, 2010, the present application is a U.S. national application based on PCT Application PCT/SE04/02045, filed on December 29, 2004, which claims priority from Swedish Application No. 0303607-6, filed on December 30, 2003. Laroia was filed on December 3, 2004, as a continuation-in-part of two PCT applications, each filed on October 14, 2004, as well as two U.S. provisional applications, filed on April 15, 2004 and October 15, 2004. Therefore, even without considering whether the subject matter of Laroia relied on by

the Examiner was disclosed in any of the earlier-filed applications, the earliest effective date as a reference would be April 15, 2004; i.e., after Applicants' priority date of December 30, 2003. Thus, Laroia does not qualify as prior art and, therefore, the Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the new grounds of rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 14-26.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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